

# Presidential Task Force on IUU Fishing and Seafood Fraud

Public Engagement Meetings

August 2014



# Background – Presidential Initiative

- On June 17, 2014, the White House released a Presidential Memorandum entitled “Establishing a Comprehensive Framework to Combat Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing and Seafood Fraud.”
- Established a Presidential Task Force co-chaired by the Departments of State and Commerce and made up of a broad range of other federal agencies.
- Tasked with reporting to the President within 180 days with “recommendations for the implementation of a comprehensive framework of integrated programs to combat IUU fishing and seafood fraud that emphasizes areas of greatest need.”

# Task Force

<u>Co Chaired by:</u>	
<b>Catherine Novelli</b> Under Secretary for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment, Department of State	<b>Dr. Kathryn Sullivan</b> Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans & Atmosphere and NOAA Administrator
<u>Senior-level representatives from:</u>	
Department of Defense	Department of Justice
Department of the Interior	Department of Agriculture
Department of Commerce	Department of Health and Human Services
Department of Homeland Security	Office of Management and Budget
Council on Environmental Quality	Office of Science and Technology Policy
Office of the United States Trade Representative	United States Agency for International Development

# Public Engagement Meetings

- The public meetings and request for comments initiates a public engagement process aimed at gaining broad input and expertise from key stakeholders and interest groups to inform and advise the Task Force in developing recommendations in compliance with the Memorandum.
- **August 13, 2014**, 3-5 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time – Webinar/Conference Call, Conference Call Number: 888-324-0793, passcode: IUU Fishing.
- **August 20, 2014**, 3-5 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time – In-person meeting Mayflower Park Hotel, 405 Olive Way, Seattle, Washington.
- **August 27, 2014**, 3-5 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time – Webinar/Conference Call, Conference Call Number: 888-324-0793, passcode: IUU Fishing.
- **August 28, 2014**, 1-3 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time – In-person meeting Washington Court Hotel on Capitol Hill, 525 New Jersey Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20001.



# Presidential Task Force Webpage

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**Presidential Task Force on Combating Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing and Seafood Fraud**



On June 17, 2014, the White House released a [Presidential Memorandum](#) entitled "Establishing a Comprehensive Framework to Combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing and Seafood Fraud." Among other actions the Memorandum established a Presidential Task Force, co-chaired by the Departments of State and Commerce and made up of a broad range of other federal agencies. The Task Force is directed to report to the President within six months with recommendations for the implementation of a comprehensive framework of integrated programs to combat [IUU fishing](#) and seafood fraud that emphasizes areas of greatest need."

**The Task Force wants to hear your feedback and ideas**

The Task Force is initiating a public engagement process aimed at gaining broad input and expertise from key stakeholders and interest groups to inform and advise them in developing recommendations in compliance with the Memorandum. The Task Force is seeking comments on topics of particular interest. These can be accessed through the [Federal Register Notice](#), which will publish July 31, 2014. A pdf is [available here](#). We hope you can participate in one of the following ways:

**Public Comments Requested:** Beginning July 31, 2014, comments can be submitted online by going directly to [Regulations.gov](#). Comments must be received by September 2, 2014.

**Public Meetings with Task Force:**

**Conference Calls with Webinar presentation:**

- August 13, 3-5 pm Eastern Daylight Time. Dial-In: 888-324-0793; Passcode: IUUFishing; Conference Number: PW8081346. [Click here to join this meeting.](#)
- August 27, 3-5pm Eastern Daylight Time. Dial-In: 888-324-0793; Passcode: IUUFishing; Conference Number: PW8081383. [Click here to join this meeting.](#)

**In-Person Meetings:**

- August 20, 2014, 3-5 pm Pacific Daylight Time at the Mayflower Park Hotel, 405 Olive Way, Seattle, Washington – Plymouth Room
- August 28, 2014, 1-3 pm Eastern Daylight Time at the Washington Court Hotel on Capitol Hill, 525 New Jersey Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20001.



Stay tuned for forthcoming details on these public meetings. For questions, please contact Laurel Bryant ([laurel.bryant@noaa.gov](mailto:laurel.bryant@noaa.gov))

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# Guiding Questions

- How can the government better coordinate its efforts across the full suite of activities related to the seafood supply chain?
- What existing authorities and tools should be enhanced to combat IUU fishing and seafood fraud?
- What are the key opportunities at the international level to address these issues through the regional fishery management organizations and bilateral efforts, such as technical assistance and capacity building?
- What existing authorities should be better coordinated or streamlined to strengthen and harmonize enforcement provisions of U.S. statutes for implementing international fisheries agreements?

# Guiding Questions

- What existing authorities should be better coordinated or streamlined to strengthen and harmonize efforts between agencies, including Federal, State and local?
- What opportunities are there, whether existing or new, to work with industry and other partners, including foreign partners, to develop and implement measures such as traceability programs to combat IUU fishing and seafood fraud?
- How prevalent are mislabeling and species substitution within the domestic and foreign seafood supply in general? Where in the seafood supply chain is species substitution most likely to occur, and what role or actions can the federal government provide or enhance to address it?

# Guiding Questions

- To what extent is the comingling of seafood products from different origins an issue? Where along the supply chain does it occur?
- What specific actions need to be taken to improve the transparency and traceability of seafood in the supply chain?
- What are the actions and issues the Task Force should prioritize in developing its recommendations for addressing IUU fishing? What about seafood fraud?
- What other topics related to IUU fishing and seafood fraud should the Task Force be aware of in developing and prioritizing recommendations?